

## **Fox, Susan**

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**From:** Megan Boehnke [megan.boehnke@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 12:59 PM  
**To:** Fox, Susan  
**Subject:** Re: Position of Commissioner of Political Practices

Good Afternoon Ms. Fox,

Here are the answers to the questions you sent me.

1. Are you familiar with restrictions Montana law imposes upon the activities of an individual holding the office of COPP?

I have read MCA 13-37-108, which provides the restrictions for an individual holding an office of COP,P multiple times. I feel and believe that I would be able to comply.

2. What is your legal writing experience?

I have written briefs and papers for law classes and on topics pertaining to laws and issues regarding treaties.

3. Have you ever been party to a complaint filed with the COPP?

No I have not been a party to a complaint filed with the COPP.

4. What is your current or past involvement with either the campaign of a candidate or a ballot initiative?

In 2002, I helped a friend put up signs for Max Baucus in Missoula.

5. Have you been affiliated with a political party or political action committee? If yes, how will this affiliation affect your ability to render impartial decisions on complaints filed against candidates, PACs, and ballot initiatives?

Yes, I have gone to a few meetings for the Clark Fork Young Republicans. For me personally I like to research information on all sides of an issue before I make a decision. When it comes to rendering impartial decisions I firmly believe in the law and that it should be followed, so for my part I believe that I will have the ability to look past any associations I have and continue to look at all parts of an issue before making any decisions.

6. What is your opinion of the current candidate contribution limits?

In my opinion the current candidate contribution limits in the state of Montana are placed at a low level which is good. It allows for any individual to run for office, which means that you do not have to be a millionaire to hold an office. I believe that this is fully in line with the Constitution of the United States and the belief that the government is the people and not just the elite members of our society.

7. Have you or a family member been involved in the legislative process as a lobbyist?

No, member of my family nor myself have been involved in the legislative process as a lobbyist.

8. In your opinion, do further regulations or restrictions need to be placed on lobbyists' activities?

The current laws that are set up on lobbyist activities need to be enforced thoroughly and fairly across the board. Further regulations and restrictions may not be necessary as long as the laws are enforced so that lobbyist may not manipulate them.

In the state of Montana, lobbyists do not have the same large quantities of financial reserves that are seen at the federal level. While this is a good thing, in order for every person and small group to have the ability to influence their government, laws need to be enforced equally and fairly to level the playing field and give all lobbyist an even voice without infringing on citizens rights.

Thank you very much,  
Megan Boehnke

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On Fri, Jan 27, 2012 at 11:26 AM, Fox, Susan <[sfox@mt.gov](mailto:sfox@mt.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ms. Boehnke,

Thank you for your information regarding the Commissioner of Political Practices position. Here are the questions that the selection committee would like you to answer. You can reply by email and I will make sure the answers are distributed. Thanks, Susan

1. Are you familiar with restrictions Montana law imposes upon the activities of an individual holding the office of COPP?
2. What is your legal writing experience?
3. Have you ever been party to a complaint filed with the COPP?
4. What is your current or past involvement with either the campaign of a candidate or a ballot initiative?